

CLAIMS

1. A hot-rolled wire rod that has excellent wire drawability as it is hot-rolled and thus allows heat treatment prior to wire drawing to be omitted:

 said hot-rolled wire rod being a hot-rolled wire rod 5.0 mm or more in diameter, containing in mass
 C: 0.6 to 1.0%,
 Si: 0.1 to 1.5%,
 Mn: 0.3 to 1.0%,
 P: 0.02% or less, and
 S: 0.02% or less;

 not less than 90% of said wire rod in area percentage being composed of a pearlite structure; and

 the mechanical properties of said wire rod 4 m in length satisfying the following expressions (1) to (4),

 (1) $TS^{*-30} \leq$ Average value of tensile strength (TS_{AV} in MPa) $\leq TS^{*+30}$,

 where, $TS^* = 400 \times \{ [C] + ([Mn] + [Si]) / 5 \} + 670$ and the elements in square brackets [] in the equality mean the contents of relevant elements in percentage,

 (2) Standard deviation of tensile strength ($TS\sigma$) ≤ 30 MPa,

 (3) Average value of reduction of area (RA_{AV}) $> 35\%$,

 (4) Standard deviation of reduction of area ($RA\sigma$) $\leq 4\%$.

2. A hot-rolled wire rod according to claim 1, wherein the average diameter of nodules in said pearlite structure is 10 μm or less.

3. A hot-rolled wire rod according to claim 1, said wire rod further containing

Cr: 0.3% or less (excluding zero) and/or

Ni: 0.3% or less (excluding zero).

4. A hot-rolled wire rod according to claim 1, said wire rod further containing at least one element selected from among the group of Nb, V, Ti, Hf and Zr by 0.1% or less (excluding zero) in total.

5. A hot-rolled wire rod according to claim 1, wherein N is controlled to 0.01% or less.

6. A hot-rolled wire rod according to claim 1, wherein Al and Mg are controlled to 0.05% or less and 0.01% or less, respectively.

7. A hot-rolled wire rod according to claim 1, said wire rod further containing

B: 0.001 to 0.005%.